In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1-3, 5, 7-16, 18-20 and 22-25; and add new claims 26-31, all as shown below. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute any original claims in a continuing or future application.

1. (Currently Amended) A system for testing JMX monitors, the system comprising:

(a) a generator software object adapted to generate a time varying signal;

(b) a JMX monitor object adapted to monitor ~~the~~ said time varying signal and to return appropriate testing values; and

(c) a notifier software object adapted to generate a notification in response to the monitoring of ~~the~~ said time varying signal by the JMX monitor object.

2. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, further comprising a listener for receiving ~~the~~ said notification.

3. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, further comprising an interface adapted to allow entry of at least one parameter to be used in generating ~~the~~ said time varying signal.

4. (Original) A system according to claim 1, further comprising a source of at least one equation to be used in generating the signal.

5. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 4 [[3]], wherein said source is selected from the group consisting of data libraries, data files, application code, or user entry.

6. (Original) A system according to claim 1, further comprising a timer, adapted to control the time for testing.

7. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ said JMX monitor object monitors ~~the~~ said time varying signal at a frequency at least twice the frequency of ~~the~~ said time varying signal.

8. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 1, further comprising a processor adapted to execute the generation of ~~the~~ said time varying signal.

9. (Currently Amended) A signal generator for use in testing software objects comprising:

(a) a generator ~~MBean~~ software object adapted to generate a time varying signal; and

(b) a library of equations for use in ~~the~~ said generator ~~Mbean~~ software object, each equation representing a time varying signal capable of being generated by ~~the~~ said generator ~~Mbean~~ software object.

10. (Currently Amended) A signal generator according to claim 9 [[8]], further comprising an interface adapted to allow selection of an equation from the library to be used in generating ~~the~~ said time varying signal.

11. (Currently Amended) A signal generator according to claim 10 [[9]], wherein ~~the~~ said interface is further adapted to allow entry of at least one parameter to be used in the equation.

12. (Currently Amended) A system according to claim 9 [[8]], further comprising a timer ~~java bean~~ software object, adapted to control the time for generation of ~~the~~ said time varying signal.

13. (Currently Amended) A method for generating a time varying signal, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) selecting an equation from a library, the equation corresponding to ~~the~~ a time varying signal to be generated;

(b) specifying the appropriate parameters for the equation; and

(c) generating ~~a~~ said time varying signal corresponding to the equation with the parameters using a generator ~~Mbean~~ software object.

14. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 13 [[12]], further comprising the step of specifying the length of time for generation of ~~the~~ said time varying signal.

15. (Currently Amended) A method for testing a JMX monitor, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) generating a time varying signal using a generator ~~Mbean~~ software object;

(b) polling ~~the~~ said generator ~~Mbean~~ software object at a frequency at least twice the frequency of the generated time varying signal using a monitor ~~Mbean~~ object of the JMX monitor; and

(c) returning a testing value for each polling of ~~the~~ said generator ~~Mbean~~ software object.

16. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 15, further comprising the step of generating a notification when a threshold value of the testing signal is detected by ~~the~~ said monitor object.

17. (Original) A method according to claim 15, further comprising the step of storing the testing values to a data store.

18. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 15, further comprising the step of comparing each testing value to the corresponding value of ~~the~~ said time varying signal from ~~the~~ said generator ~~Mbean~~ software object.

19. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 15, further comprising the step of specifying an equation to be used in generating ~~the~~ said time varying signal.

20. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 15, further comprising the step of specifying at least one parameter to be used in generating ~~the~~ said time varying signal.

21. (Original) A method according to claim 15, further comprising the step of specifying the frequency of polling.

22. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable medium, comprising:

(a) means for selecting an equation from a library, the equation corresponding to a time varying signal to be generated;

(b) means for specifying parameters for the equation; and

(c) means for generating a time varying signal corresponding to the equation, with the parameters, using a generator ~~Mbean~~ software object.

23. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for execution by a server computer for testing a JMX monitor, comprising:

(a) computer code for selecting an equation from a library, the equation corresponding to a time varying signal to be generated;

(b) computer code for specifying parameters for the equation; and

(c) computer code for generating a time varying signal corresponding to the equation, with the parameters, using a generator ~~Mbean~~ software object.

24. (Currently Amended) A system for testing a JMX monitor, comprising:

(a) means for selecting an equation from a library, the equation corresponding to a time varying signal to be generated;

(b) means for specifying parameters for the equation; and

(c) means for generating a time varying signal corresponding to the equation, with the parameters, using a generator ~~Mbean~~ software object.

25. (Currently Amended) A computer system comprising:

a processor;

object code executed by said processor, said object code configured to:

(a) select an equation from a library, the equation corresponding to a time varying signal to be generated;

(b) specify parameters for the equation; and

(c) generate a time varying signal corresponding to the equation, with the parameters, using a generator ~~Mbean~~ software object.

26. (New) A system according to claim 1, wherein said software object is a MBean.

27. (New) A method according to claim 15, wherein said software object is a MBean.

28. (New) A system for testing JMX monitors, the system comprising:

(a) a generator software object adapted to generate a time varying unorthodox signal;

(b) a JMX monitor object adapted to monitor said time varying unorthodox signal; and

(c) a notifier software object adapted to generate a notification in response to the monitoring of said time varying unorthodox signal by said JMX monitor object.

29. (New) A system according to claim 28, wherein said time varying unorthodox signal comprises of a string of words.

30. (New) A method for testing a JMX monitor, the method comprising the steps of:

(a) generating a time varying unorthodox signal using a generator software object;

(b) polling said generator software object at a frequency at least twice the frequency of the generated time varying unorthodox signal using a monitor object of the JMX monitor; and

(c) returning a testing value for each polling of the said generator software object.

31. (New) A method according to claim 30, wherein said time varying unorthodox signal comprises of a string of words.